

## STE

My lord of Amiens and myself.  
Did *steal* behind him as he lay along  
Under an oak.

I cannot think it,  
That he would *steal* away so guilty like,  
Seeing you coming.  
The most peaceable way, if you take a thief, is to let him  
shew what he is, and *steal* out of your company. *Shakespeare.*  
At time that lover's flights doth full conceal,  
Through Athens' gate have we devis'd to *steal*. *Shakespeare.*  
In my conduct shall your ladies come,  
From whom you now must *steal* and take no leave. *Shak.*  
Others weary of the long journey, lingering behind, were  
*stolen* away; and they which were left, moided with dirt and  
mire.

A bride  
Should vanish from her cloaths into her bed,  
As souls from bodies *steal* and are not spy'd. *Donne.*  
The vapour of charcoal hath killed many; and it is the  
more dangerous, because it cometh without any ill smell, and  
*steals* on by little and little. *Bacon's Natural History.*

A soft and solemn breathing found,  
Rose like a steam of rich distill'd perfumes,  
And *stole* upon the air, that even silence  
Was took ere she was ware. *Milton.*

As wife artill mix their colours so,  
That by degrees they from each other go;  
Black *steals* unheeded from the neighb'ring white,  
So on us *stole* our blessed change. *Dryden.*

At a time when he had no flewth, he *stole* away.  
Now his fierce eyes with sparkling fury glow,  
To practise theft; to play the thief; to take any thing thievish-  
ly; to have the habit of thieving.

*Stealing* is the taking from another what is his, without his  
knowledge or allowance.  
The good humour is to *steal* at a minute's rest. — Convey,  
the wife it call; *steal*! a fico for the phrase! *Shakespeare.*

STEAL'ER. *n. f.* [from *steal*.] One who steals; a thief.  
The transgression is in the *stealer*. *Shakespeare.*  
STEAL'INGLY. *adv.* [from *stealing*.] Silly; by invisible motion;  
by secret practice.

They were diverse motions, they did so *stealing*ly slip one  
into another, as the latter part was ever in hand before the  
eye could discern the former was ended. *Sidney.*  
STEALTH. *n. f.* [from *steal*.]

1. The act of stealing; theft.  
The owner proveth the *stealth* to have been committed upon  
him by such an outlaw, and to have been found in the posses-  
sion of the prisoner. *Spenser's State of Ireland.*

The *stealth* of mutual entertainment  
With character too gross is written on Juliet. *Shakespeare.*  
In the secret dark that none reproves,  
Their pretty *stealths* shall work, and snares shall prosper.

The gods persuaded Mercury,  
Their good observer, to his *stealth*. *Chapman's Iliad.*  
2. The thing stolen.

On his back a heavy load he bare  
Of nightly *stealths*, and pillage several. *Fairy Queen.*  
Store of cabins are but stutth dens, that breed sickness in  
peace, serving to cover *stealths*, and in fight are dangerous to  
tear men with splinters. *Raleigh.*

3. Secret act; clandestine practice. By *stealth* means secretly;  
clandestinely; with desire of concealment: but, like *steal*, is  
often used in a good sense.

The wisdom of the same spirit borrowed from melody that  
pleasure, which mingled with heavenly mysteries, caught the  
smoothness and softness of that which toucheth the ear, to  
convey as it were by *stealth* the treasure of good things into  
man's mind. *Hooker.*

I feel this youth's perfections,  
With an invisible and subtle *stealth*,  
To creep in at mine eyes. *Shakespeare's Twelfth Night.*  
The monarch blinded with desire of wealth,  
With *steal* invades his brother's life by *stealth*.  
Before the sacred altar. *Dryden.*

Let humble Allen, with an awkward shame,  
Do good by *stealth*, and blush to find it fame. *Pope.*  
STEALTHY. *adj.* [from *stealth*.] Done clandestinely; perform-  
ed by *stealth*.

Now wither'd murder with his *stealthy* pace,  
Moves like a ghost.  
STEAM. *n. f.* [from *steame*, Saxon.] The smoke or vapour of any  
thing moist and hot.

Sweet odours are, in such a company as there is *steam* and  
heat, things of great refreshment. *Bacon.*  
His offering soon propitious fire from heaven  
Consum'd with nimble glance and grateful *steam*. *Milton.*  
While the temple smok'd with hallow'd *steam*,  
They wash the virgin. *Dryden.*

## STE

Such the figure of a feast  
Which, were it not for plenty and for *steam*,  
Might be resembled to a sick man's dream.  
Some it bears in *steam* up into the air, and this in such a  
quantity as to be manifest to the smell, especially the sulphur.  
*Woodward's Natural History.*

TO STEAM. *v. n.* [from *steaman*, Saxon.]  
1. To smoke or vapour with moist heat.  
Scarcely had Phœbus in the gloomy east,  
Got harnessed his fiery-footed team,  
Ne rear'd above the earth his flaming crest

When the last deadly smoke aloft did *steam*. *Fairy Queen.*  
See, see, my brother's ghost hangs hovering there,  
O'er his warm blood, that *steams* into the air. *Dryden.*  
O wretched we! Why were we hurry'd down  
This lubrick and adult'rate age;  
Nay, added far pollutions of our own,  
T' increase the *steaming* ordures of the stage? *Dryden.*

In heated brasts, *steaming* with fire intense. *Philips.*  
These minerals not only issue out at these larger exits, but  
*steam* forth through the pores of the earth, occasioning sul-  
phureous and other offensive fumes. *Woodward.*

2. To send up vapours.  
Ye mists that rise from *steaming* lake. *Milton.*  
3. To pass in vapours.  
The dissolved amber plainly swam like a thin film upon the  
liquour, whence it *steamed* away into the air. *Spenser.*

STEAM'ING. *n. f.* [from *steaming*.]  
If the matter in a wen resembles milk-curd, the tumour is  
called atheroma; if like honey, meliceris; and if composed of  
fat, *steatoma*. *Sharpe's Surgery.*

STEED. *n. f.* [from *stæda*, Saxon.] A horse for state or war.  
My noble *steed* I give him, *Shak. Macbeth.*  
With all his trim belonging. *Milton.*  
Impresses quaint, caparisons and *steeds*. *Milton.*  
Stout are our men, and warlike are our *steeds*. *Waller.*

She thought herself the trembling dame who fled,  
And him the grisly ghost that spurr'd th' infernal *steed*. *Dryden.*  
Who, like our active African, instructs  
The fiery *steed*, and trains him to his hand? *Addison's Cato.*  
See! the bold youth strain up the threatening steep;  
Hang o'er their courser's heads with eager speed,  
And earth rolls back beneath the flying *steed*. *Pope.*

STEEL. *n. f.* [from *stæla*, Saxon; *steel*, Dutch.]  
1. Steel is a kind of iron, refined and purified by the fire with  
other ingredients, which renders it white, and its grain closer  
and finer than common iron. Steel, of all other metals, is  
that susceptible of the greatest degree of hardness, when well  
tempered; whence its great use in the making of tools and  
instruments of all kinds. *Chambers.*

*Steel* is made from the purest and softest iron, by keeping it  
red-hot, stratified with coal-dust and wood-ashes, or among  
substances that abound in the phlogiston, for several hours in  
a close furnace. It may also be made by fusion, and several  
other ways; but they are greatly in the wrong who pretend  
that iron for medicinal purposes. *Hill's Mat. Medica.*

At her back a bow and quiver gay,  
Stu'd with *steel*-headed darts wherewith the quell'd  
The savage beasts in her victorious play. *Fairy Queen.*  
The *steel*-bound doors and iron gates he ties. *Fairfax.*  
A looking-glass, with the *steel* behind, looketh whiter than  
glass simple. *Bacon's Natural History.*

Diamonds, though hard bodies, will not readily strike fire  
with *steel*, much less with one another; nor a flint easily with  
a *steel*, if they both be wet; the sparks being then quenched  
in their eruption. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*  
Both were of shining *steel*, and wrought to pure  
As might the strokes of two such arms endure. *Dryden.*

2. It is often used metonymically for weapons or armour.  
Brave Macbeth with his brandish'd *steel*  
Which smok'd with bloody execution,  
Carv'd out his passage till he had fac'd the fave. *Shakespeare.*

A grove of oaks,  
Whose polish'd *steel* from far severely shines,  
Are not so dreadful as this beauteous queen. *Dryden.*  
He hidden as the word,  
In proud Plexippus' bosom plunged the sword;  
Toxous amaz'd, and with amazement flow,  
Stood doubting; and while doubting thus he stood,  
Receiv'd the *steel* bath'd in his brother's blood. *Dryden.*

3. Chalybeate medicines.  
After relaxing, *steel* strengthens the solids, and is likewise  
an antacid. *Arbuthnot.*

4. It is used proverbially for hardness: as heads of *steel*.  
TO STEEL. *v. a.* [from the noun.]  
1. To point or edge with mine armour with thy prayers,  
Add proof unto mine armour with thy prayers,  
And with thy blessings *steel* my lance's point. *Shak. R. II.*

## STE

2. To make hard or firm. It is used, if it be applied to the mind,  
very often in a bad sense.  
Lies well *steel'd* with weighty arguments. *Shakespeare.*  
So service shall with *steel'd* fingers toil,  
And labour shall refresh itself with hope. *Shakespeare's H. V.*

From his metal was his party *steel'd*;  
Which once in him rebated, all the rest  
Turn'd on themselves, like dull and heavy lead. *Shakespeare.*  
O God of battles! *steel* thy soldier's hearts,  
Possess them not with fear. *Shakespeare's Henry V.*

Why will you fight against so sweet a passion,  
And *steel* your heart to such a world of charms? *Addison.*  
Man, foolish man!  
Scarce know'st thou how thyself began;  
Yet *steel'd* with study's doldrums, thou dar'st try  
To find thy doubted reason's dazzled eye.

Through the mysterious gulph of vast immensity. *Prior.*  
Let the *steel'd* Turk be dead to matrons' cries,  
See virgins ravi'd with relentless eyes. *Tickell.*

STEELY. *adj.* [from *steel*.]  
1. Made of *steel*.  
Thy brother's blood the thirsty earth hath drunk,  
Branch'd with the *steely* point of Clifford's lance. *Shakespeare.*  
Here smokes his forge, he bares his finewy arm,  
And early strokes the founding anvil warm;  
Around his shop the *steely* sparks flew,  
As for the *steed* he flap'd the bending shoe. *Gay.*

2. Hard; firm.  
That the would unarm her noble heart of that *steely* resist-  
ance against the sweet blows of love. *Sidney.*  
SPRIZ'ARD. *n. f.* [from *stæla* and *yard*.] A kind of balance, in  
which the weight is moved along an iron rod, and grows hea-  
vier as it is removed farther from the fulcrum. *Ainsworth.*

STEEN, or STEAN. *n. f.* A vessel of clay or stone. *Ainsworth.*  
STEPP. *adj.* [from *stæp*, Saxon.] Rising or descending with little  
inclination.  
He now had conquer'd Anxur's *steep* ascent. *Addison.*

STEER. *n. f.* Precipice; ascent or descent approaching to per-  
pendicularity.  
As that Theban monster that propos'd  
Her riddle, and him, who solv'd it not, devour'd;  
That once found out and solv'd, for grief and spite  
Call her self heading from the Imaean *steep*. *Milton.*

As high turrets for their airy *steep*  
Require foundations, in proportion deep;  
And lofty cedars as far upwards float,  
As to the nearer heavens they drive the root;  
So low did her secure foundation lie,  
She was not humble, but humility.

Instructs the beast to know his native force,  
To take the bit between his teeth, and fly  
To the next heading *steep* of anarchy. *Dryden.*  
We had on each side naked rocks and mountains, broken  
into a thousand irregular *steeps* and precipices. *Addison.*

Leaning o'er the rails, he musing stood,  
And view'd below the black canal of mud,  
Where common shores a lulling murmur keep,  
Whose torrents rush from Holborn's fatal *steep*. *Gay.*

TO STEER. *v. a.* [from *stæran*, Dutch.] To steer; to macerate;  
to imbue; to dip.  
When his brother saw the red blood trail  
Adown so fast, and all his armour *steep*,  
For very feltness loud he gan to weep. *Spenser.*

He, like an adder, lurking in the weeds,  
His wandering thought in deep desire does *steep*,  
And his frail eye with spoil of beauty feeds. *Fairy Queen.*  
A napkin *steep'd* in the harmless blood  
Of sweet young Rutland. *Shakespeare's Henry VI.*

Present to her, as sometime Marg'ret  
Did to thy father, *steep'd* in Rutland's blood,  
A handkerchief; which, say to her, did drain  
The purple tide from her sweet brother's body. *Shakespeare.*

The conquering wine *steep'd* our sense  
In soft and delicate Lethe. *Shakespeare.*  
Many dream not to find, neither deserve,  
And yet are *steep'd* in favours. *Shakespeare's Cymbeline.*

Four days will quickly *steep* themselves in night;  
Four nights will quickly dream away the time. *Shakespeare.*  
Most of the *steepings* are cheap things, and the goodness of  
the crop is a great matter of gain. *Bacon.*

Whole droves of minds are by the driving god  
Compell'd to drink the deep Lethean flood:  
In large forgetful draughts to *steep* the cares  
Of their past labours and their life's woes. *Dryden.*

Wheat *steep'd* in brine twelve hours prevents the murrains.  
TO STEEPLE. *n. f.* [from *stæpel*, Saxon.] A turret of a church  
generally furnished with bells. A spire.  
Blow, winds, and crack your cheeks; rage, blow!  
You cataracts and hurricanoes spout  
Till you have drench'd our *steeples*, drown'd the cocks. *Shakespeare.*

## STE

What was found in many places, and preached for wheat  
fallen on the ground from the clouds, was but the seed of ivy-  
berries, and though found in *steeples* or high places, might be  
conveyed thither or muted by birds. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*  
A raven I saw yesterday *steep*-high, just over your house.  
*L'Estrange.*

They, far from *steeples* and their sacred sound,  
In fields their fullen conventicles found. *Dryden.*  
STEELY. *adv.* [from *steep*.] With precipitous declivity.

STEEPNESS. *n. f.* [from *steep*.] Precipitous declivity.  
The cragg'dness or *steepness* of that mountain maketh many  
parts of it inaccessible. *Brewer's on Language.*  
Lord Lovel swam over Trent on horseback, but could not  
recover the farther side, by reason of the *steepness* of the bank,  
and so was drown'd. *Bacon's Henry VII.*

Vineyards, meadows, and cornfields lie on the borders, and  
run up all the sides of the Alps, where the barrenness of the  
rocks, or the *steepness* of the ascent will suffer them. *Addison.*  
STEER. *n. f.* [from *stæp*.] Having a precipitous declivity.  
A poetical word for *steep*.

Who hath dispos'd, but thou, the winding way,  
Where springs down from the *steep* crags do beat. *Wotton.*  
A prophet came, and some a poet cry,  
From *steep* Othrys' top to Pylus drove. *Dryden.*

His herd; and for his pains enjoy'd his love.  
No more, my goats, shall I behold you climb  
The *steep* cliffs, or crop the flow'ry thyme! *Dryden.*  
STEER. *n. f.* [from *stæp*, Saxon; *stier*, Dutch.] A young bullock.

They think themselves half exempted from law and obedi-  
ence; and having once tasted freedom, do, like a *steer* that  
hath been long out of his yoke, grudge and repine ever after  
to come under rule again. *Spenser's Ireland.*

Lacaon, Neptune's priest,  
With solemn pomp then sacrific'd a *steer*. *Dryden.*  
Nor has the *steer*,  
At whose strong cheif the deadly tiger hangs,  
E'er plow'd for him. *Thomson.*

TO STEER. *v. a.* [from *stæran*, Saxon; *stieren*, Dutch.] To  
direct; to guide in a passage.  
A comely palmer, clad in black attire,  
Of ripe years, and hairs all hoary gray,  
That with a staff his feeble steps did *steer*,  
Left his long way his aged limbs should tire. *Fairy Queen.*

If a pilot cannot see the pole star it can be no fault in him  
to *steer* his course by such stars as do best appear to him. *K. Ch.*  
TO STEER. *v. n.* To direct a course.

As when a ship by skilful steersman wrought,  
Nigh river's mouth, or foreland, where the wind  
Veers oft, as oft to *steer*, and shifts her sail. *Milton.*  
In a creature, whose thoughts are more than the sands, and  
wider than the ocean, fancy and passion must needs run him  
into strange courses, if reason, which is his only star and com-  
pass be not that he *steers* by. *Locke.*

STEERAGE. *n. f.* [from *steer*.]  
1. The act or practice of steering.  
2. Direction; regulation of a course.

He that hath the *steerage* of my course,  
Direst my fate. *Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet.*  
Having got his vessel launched and set adrift, he committed  
the *steerage* of it to such as he thought capable of conducting  
it. *Spenser.*

3. That by which any course is guided.  
His costly frame  
Inscrib'd to Phœbus, here he hung on high,  
The *steerage* of his wings, and cut the sky. *Dryden.*

4. Regulation, or management of any thing.  
You raise the honour of the peerage,  
Proud to attend you at the *steerage*. *Swift.*

5. The stern or hinder part of the ship.  
STEERSMAN. *n. f.* *steer* and *man*, or *mate*.] A pilot; one  
who steers a ship.

What pilot so expert but needs must wreck,  
Embark'd with such a *steersman* at the helm?  
In a storm, though the vessel be pressed never so hard, a skil-  
ful *steersman* will yet bear up against it. *L'Estrange.*

Through it the joyful *steersman* clears his way,  
And comes to anchor in his innmost bay. *Dryden.*  
STEGANOGRAPHY. *n. f.* [from *steganos* and *grapho*.] He who  
practises the art of secret writing.

STEGANOGRAPHY. *n. f.* [from *steganos* and *grapho*.] The art of  
secret writing by characters or cyphers, intelligible only to the  
persons who correspond one with another. *Bailey.*

STEGNOTICK. *adj.* [from *steganos*.] Binding; rendering co-  
sive. *Bailey.*  
STELE. *n. f.* [from *stela*, Sax. *stela*, Dutch.] A stalk; a handle.

STELLAR. *adj.* [from *stella*.] Astral; relating to the stars.  
In part shed down  
Their stellar virtue, on all kinds that grow  
On earth; made hereby apter to receive  
Perfection from the sun's more potent ray. *Milton.*